

Telephone: (306) 966-6960 Email: contactus@ussu.ca Website: www.ussu.ca

University Students' Council Agenda October 24, 2024 – 6:00 PM Roy Romanow Student Council Chamber

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Land Acknowledgement
- 3. Roll Call/Quorum
- 4. Adoption of an Agenda
- 5. Council Address
 - 5.1. Introductions
- 6. Minutes and Reports for Information
 - 6.1. USC Minutes October 17, 2024
 - 6.2. Executive Committee Minutes and Report October 21, 2024
 - 6.3. Academic Relations Committee Report
 - 6.4. Advocacy Committee Report
 - 6.5. Campus Group Committee Report
 - 6.6. Code of Ethics and Disciplinary Committee Report
 - 6.7. Elections Committee Report
 - 6.8. Finance Committee Report
 - 6.9. Governance Committee Report
 - 6.10. Student Life and Sustainability Committee Report
 - 6.11. Student and City of Saskatoon Connection Committee Report
- 7. Motions Arising from the Minutes and Reports
- 8. College/Constituency Report
 - 8.1. Agriculture and Bioresources
 - 8.2. Arts and Science
 - 8.3. Dentistry
 - 8.4. Education
 - 8.5. Edwards School of Business
 - 8.6. Engineering
 - 8.7. Indigenous Students
 - 8.8. International Students
 - 8.9. Kinesiology
 - 8.10. Law
 - 8.11. Medicine
 - 8.12. Nursing
 - 8.13. Pharmacy and Nutrition
 - 8.14. St. Thomas More
 - 8.15. Western College of Veterinary Medicine



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- 9. Business
 - 9.1. Motion for CASA Observer Membership
 - 9.2. USC Committee Appointments
- 10. New Business
- 11. Questions, Comments, and Announcements
- 12. Adjournment

Room 110, 1 Campus Drive University of Saskatchewan Saskatoon, Saskatchewan S7N 5A3



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University Students' Council Minutes October 17, 2024 – 6:00 PM Roy Romanow Student Council Chamber

Present:

- Moses Ahiabu (he/him), VP Operations and Finance
- Upkar Singh (he/him), VP Student Affairs
- Elisabeth Bauman (she/her), VP Academic Affairs
- Karlin Frykas (he/him), Agriculture and Bioresources
- Zachary Cey (he/him), Agriculture and Bioresources
- Melissa Fielding (she/her), Education
- Norah Jacob (she/her), St. Thomas More
- Selim Bytyqi (he/him), Arts and Science
- Eliaking Cabrera (he/him), Nursing
- Eileen Lennie-Koshman, Indigenous Students
- Kyungsoo Ryu (she/her), Edwards
- Taihre Lafond, Indigenous Students
- Nisarg Chaudhary (he/him), International Students
- Paras Sidhu (he/him), Law
- Queen Tayab (she/her), Nursing
- Jordie Finnie (he/him), Arts and Science
- Krunal Chavda (he/him), President
- Chang Ge (he/him) Dentistry
- Ritu Patel (she/her), Edwards
- Guillermo Tellez-Hernandez (he/him), Arts and Science

Also Present:

- Zoher Rafid-Hamed (he/him), USC Chairperson
- Jason Ventnor (he/him), USSU Communications & Marketing Manager

Absent:

- Shayan Ahmed (he/him), Kinesiology
- Meet Patel (he/him), Medicine
- Yusup Guldadov, Engineering
- Nahian Mashrafi (he/him), International Students
- Joel Bilyk (he/him), WCVM

Guests:

• Wasiimah Joomun (she/her), CASA Executive Director

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM.

2. Land Acknowledgement

Chairperson Rafid-Hamed stated the land acknowledgment: As a Council of Indigenous and Non-Indigenous students, we acknowledge that we gather on Treaty 6 territory, the homeland of the Cree, Saulteaux, Blackfoot, Métis, Dene, and Dakota people. We acknowledge the harm that colonial institutions, such as the University of Saskatchewan, have done. We remember that there were centuries of governance and education on this land before the settlers arrived and that these forms of education and governance are continuing today. We honour and reaffirm our relationships with one another and the land that we are on as we work to dismantle the systematic barriers to education that First Nations, Métis, Inuit, and other marginalized people face.

3. Roll Call & Quorum

Roll call was completed, and the list of attendees is listed on the first page of these minutes. Quorum was present.

4. Adoption of an Agenda

No amendments were made to the agenda.

Move to adopt the agenda as presented.

Lennie-Koshman

5. Council Address

5.1. CASA

Wasiimah Joomun, Executive Director of Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA) gave a presentation.

- CASA represents 365,000+ students, has 26 members and 17 observers, and is governed by 7 elected board members.
- CASA's mission: "to advocate for students using policy development and research, awareness campaigns, government relations, and partnerships with other stakeholders."
- CASA's values include non-partisan, member driven, research-based, easy-in easy-out, transparency, and one vote per institution.
- CASA's structure includes membership, CASA delegates, CASA general assembly, CASA board of directors, and office staff.
- How students can get involved.
 - o CASA delegates:
 - Board of director.
 - Voting member on a committee.
 - Leadership role in a committee.

- Non-CASA delegates:
 - Be a non-voting member on a committee. Open to student union Councillors.
 - Attend CASA's virtual consultation sessions. Open to student union Councillors.
 - Provide feedback to CASA delegates.
- The CASA board is composed of the Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Director of Advocacy, Director of Membership, Director of EDI, and Director of Policy.
- How CASA affects change: research, lobby meetings, minister offices, parliamentary committee appearances, partnership, national campaigns, and public relations.
- CASA helped secure the following in the 2024 federal budget:
 - Increased student financial aid.
 - A new Youth Mental Health Fund.
 - Incentives to hire apprentices.
 - o Indigenous funding.
 - o Increase in Tri-Council grants.
 - o Removal of GST on new student residences.
- Timeline of CASA's year:
 - May: foundations, elections.
 - o June: board retreat and committees launching.
 - July: policy and strategy.
 - August/September: Indigenous students conference.
 - October: campaign launch, committee work, prep for Advocacy Week.
 - o November: Advocacy Week.
 - o April: AGM.
- CASA 2024-2025 priorities include:
 - Artificial intelligence.
 - o Express entry points.
 - o Indigenous student funding.
 - o Employment.
 - Student financial aid.
 - Graduate research funding.
 - Campus safety.
- CASA pre-budget recommendations for 2025:
 - Permanent investment in Canada Student Grants.
 - Increase in the Postsecondary Student Support Program.
 - Double funding to the Apprenticeship Incentive Grant.
 - o Invest in the Student-Work Placement Program.
 - o Index awards to inflation for Graduate Student Funding.
 - Revise the Express Entry Comprehensive Ranking System score.

- What CASA offers the USSU:
 - Representing USSU at the national level.
 - Attendance at CASA conferences and leadership roles.
 - o Participation in CASA committees.
 - Access to professional training, advocacy resources, and student-union networks.
- Benefits of being a CASA observer:
 - Two years of free membership.
 - Attend CASA conferences for a small fee per delegate.
 - Sit on CASA committees as non-voting members.
 - Observe CASA consultation sessions.
 - Attend virtual sessions free of charge.
 - Student Union network and professional development.

Councillor Bytyqi asked for example when CASA was successful at securing policy changes.

- Ms. Joomun provided the following examples:
 - Housing. Some universities have land but lack the funding to build more housing. CASA advocated for universities to have access to the Apartment Construction Loan Program and was successful.
 - Interest on student loans was eliminated recently after advocacy by CASA.
 - The last budget saw an investment of \$500M into mental health supports.

Councillor Frykas asked what the membership fees are and how they are set.

 Ms. Joomun explained that institutions with fewer students, between 1 and 2000 students, pay \$4.94 per student. Institutions with more than 20,000 students pay the maximum fee of \$66,000, with the largest institutions paying approximately \$1.00 per student. Fees are set by membership.

Councillor Lennie-Koshman asked how CASA can support Indigenous students.

 Ms. Joomun answered that CASA has a National Indigenous Advocacy Committee. CASA was successful in securing investment in the Postsecondary Student Support Program. They are looking at housing this year.

Councillor Lennie-Koshman asked if CASA has been successful in advocating for disabled students.

• Ms. Joomun answered yes, CASA secured an increased exemption for student loans for disabled students.

6. Minutes and Reports for Information

6.1. USC Minutes - October 10, 2024

6.2. Executive Committee Minutes and Report – October 15, 2024

President Chavda reported that the highlights of his week included meeting with the executive chef of Marquis to discuss diverse food needs (including halal, vegetarian, and vegan and meeting with the Faculty Association.

Councillor Bytyqi asked about the possibility of getting more halal options in Place Riel.

 President Chavda explained that the USSU leases space to tenants. The tenants run private businesses; the USSU can make suggestions, but the businesses have the right to operate as they see fit.

Councillor Tellez-Hernandez asked if the quality of Marquis has been discussed.

 President Chavda answered yes. If students have concerns they can contact either the USSU or the Marquis Food Committee.

Councillor Jacob expressed concerns about food waste and if anything can be done to mitigate it.

 President Chavda answered yes, Marquis has a thorough process relating to food waste.

VP Ahiabu has been working on campus group ratifications.

VP Singh has been preparing for the upcoming provincial and municipal elections.

Councillor Sidhu asked how the USSU will encourage students to vote.

- VP Singh answered that the USSU is partnering with New Majority on a get out the vote campaign and will be tabling.
- President Chavda added that New Majority helps students find their polling location. Also, New Majority is looking to hire students between October 21 and 28 for their community connector program.

SM Ventnor shared that Place Riel will be hosting early voting for the civic election on November 5 and 6.

VP Bauman shared that she is working on an open education resources (OERs) information campaign. The USSU has a new Al information pamphlet to help students understand USask's expectations regarding use of Al. Also, nominations for the USSU's Teaching Excellence Awards are now open.

Councillor Finnie asked how to nominate a professor for a TEA.

 VP Bauman answered that a student can complete the nomination form on the USSU website.

Councillor Tayab asked if instructors are eligible for a TEA.

VP Bauman answered yes.

7. Motions Arising from the Minutes and Reports

No corrections were made to the minutes or reports.

Move to adopt the USC minutes of October 10, 2024, into the official record.

USCMOTION033	Councillor Finnie / Councillor Sidhu	Carried
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Move to adopt the Executive Committee minutes of October 15, 2024, into the official record.

USCMOTION034 President Chavda / VP Bauman	Carried
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8. College/Constituency Report

8.1. Agriculture and Bioresources

Councillor Cey shared the following:

- Their Dean's term is ending in August. She is open to a second term
- ASA executives met with President Chavda.
- Ag Bag Drag is on October 18.

8.2. Arts and Science

Councillor Bytyqi shared the following:

- ASSU September recap: 73 members, 49 lockers, 117 meeting attendees, \$2185 earned, 75 exam requests fulfilled, 200 posters stamped.
- The ASSU attended the faculty council.
- On October 18, the ASSU executive will meet with the dean.

8.3. Dentistry

Councillor Ge shared the following:

- The College is inviting graduates who work in small towns to talk to students about their experiences.
- The College also is inviting representatives from banks to teach financial literacy.
- Their awareness committee is selling tickets for a pumpkin carving event.
- One of their student organizations is having a bake sale.

8.4. Education

Councillor Fielding shared the following:

- They had a good turnout for their Glow Up Party on October 5.
- They are continuing to plan for their hockey trip.
- They are planning a Karaoke night on either October 22 or 23.
- They are still working on new clothing.
- Their graduation is set for March 22.

8.5. Edwards

Councillor Ryu (inaudible)

8.6. Engineering

No Councillor present.

8.7. Indigenous Students

Councillor Lafond shared

- They finished onboarding.
- Traditional drumming started yesterday.
- Women's full moon ceremony is taking place now.

8.8. International Students

Councillor Chaudhary shared the following:

- They are focused on recruiting new members.
- They are hosting a Halloween night event on October 28.

President Chavda reminded Councillor Chaudhary that all international students are members of INSA by default.

 VP Ahiabu suggested that INSA get in touch with ISSAC regarding membership.

8.9. Kinesiology

No Councillor present.

8.10. Law

Councillor Sidhu shared the following:

- They are hosting some wellness events.
- They are hosting a formal on October 26.

8.11. Medicine

No Councillor present.

8.12. Nursing

Councillor Tayab shared the following:

- New uniforms are being used.
- One of their fundraisers is now closed.
- Their student association has six new members
- Fourth-years are working on other fundraisers.

8.13. Pharmacy and Nutrition

No Councillor present.

8.14. St. Thomas More

Councillor Jacob shared the following

- They held a byelection for Director of Events.
- Corporation on the 26th.
- STM Fall Festival is Friday, October 24.
- Faculty council is upcoming.
- Plans for a dance next month.
- They are trying to get late night hours at the STM Library.

Councillor Sidhu asked if it would be possible to have a library open during the night.

- President Chavda shared that the University wants to limit the number of access points during the night.
- SM Ventnor added that this is a conversation to have with the Dean because they set the budget.

Councillor Sidhu asked if there is a rule that states a student must present their student ID to study in the library during late hours.

- SM Ventnor said to ask the library what their policy is.
- Councillor Chaudhary added that he has shown his information on Canvas to the library.

Councillor Jacob asked if the Murray late night study hours are held by the library or the USSU.

 President Chavda explained that it is held by the Murray Library, but it is staffed by the USSU's Student Crew.

8.15. Western College of Veterinary Medicine

No Councillor present.

9. Business

10. New Business

11. Questions, Comments, and Announcements

11.1. USC Committees

Councillor Bytygi asked when the USC committees will start meeting.

 President Chavda answered that they will start meeting in about a week.

Councillor Fielding asked if they will get an invitation on Slack

 President Chavda answered yes, MSCs will get an invitation via email and Slack.

11.2. Gavel

Councillor Finnie asked Chairperson Rafid-Hamed why he does not use the gavel to adjourn meetings.

• Chairperson Rafid-Hamed answered that he will explain later.

11.3. CASA Discussion

President Chavda explained that the USSU currently is a part of a federal advocacy group called Undergraduates of Canadian Research Intensive Universities (UCRU), but UCRU has been dysfunctional. The USSU Executive would like the USSU to join CASA as an observer so that Saskatchewan students have a voice at the national level.

Councillor Bytyqi asked if UCRU has the ability to lobby in Ottawa but chooses not to.

 President Chavda responded that it is about more than going to Ottawa. CASA has permanent staff that handles its day-to-day operations, and UCRU does not. This has made it difficult for UCRU to thrive.

Councillor Bytyqi asked, given that post-secondary education is provincial jurisdiction, why it is so important to have a voice at the national level.

- VP Singh explained that while the federal government does not have direct jurisdiction over postsecondary education, it has responsibilities that still can affect postsecondary education, such as immigration.
- President Chavda added that student loans are a collaboration between the federal government and the provincial governments.

Councillor Ryu asked for clarification on whether the USSU will get charged to have observer status with CASA.

President Chavda answered no.

Councillor Ryu asked if MSCs get to vote on whether the USSU becomes an observer of CASA.

 President Chavda answered yes, Council will vote at the next meeting.

Councillor Ryu asked if students will get charged a fee if the USC votes in favour of the USSU becoming a full member of CASA.

 President Chavda explained that the USSU must hold a referendum to add any new student fees, but this is a question for a later date. He wants the USSU to have observer status in CASA ahead of the next federal election.

Councillor Jacob asked if a student union can end its observer status in CASA in less than two years.

President Chavda answered yes, an observer can leave anytime.

Councillor Bytyqi asked if the USSU's interests will be served under CASA with its one vote per institution model because many of CASA's members are smaller, non-research intensive universities.

 President Chavda shared that the USSU Executive and Senior Managers have also considered this concern. More and more U15 student unions are joining CASA. The benefits of joining CASA will be greater next year because there will be more opportunities to get involved.

12. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 PM.



Executive Meeting Minutes for October 21, 2024

Present:

President/Chair - Krunal Chavda

VP Operations and Finance – Moses Ahiabu

VP Academic Affairs – Elisabeth Bauman

VP Student Affairs – Upkar Singh

SM Communications & Marketing – Jason Ventnor

SM Facilities – Stefanie Ewen

Academic & Governance Assistant – Brock Neufeldt

Regrets:

None

1. Call to Order

President Chavda called the meeting to order at 10:03 AM and stated the land acknowledgment.

2. Quorum

Quorum was present.

3. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

EXEC 2024.10.15

President Chavda / VP Singh Carried

4. Roundtables

a. President Chavda

- i. Meetings
 - 1. Exec Meeting
 - 2. University Librarian Search Committee
 - 3. Mayoral Forum
 - 4. USC
 - 5. Huskie Athletics Ryley Cozart
 - 6. Global News Interview

ii. Projects/Initiatives

1. Koffee w/ Krunal - Food Centre



iii. Events

- 1. Mayoral Forum
- 2. Provincial Elections Debate watch party

iv. Other

b. VP Ahiabu

- i. Meetings
 - 1. Executive Meeting
 - 2. PPC
 - a. Strategize enrollment for international students.
 - b. Extend the 2025 plan.
 - 3. Exec/SM Meeting
 - 4. USSU & COS Connection Committee Meeting
 - a. BRT/Link rollout in 2027.
 - b. College Drive traffic concerns.
 - c. Housing affordability concerns.
 - 5. Pre-Council
 - 6. USC
 - 7. Meeting with CG Leaders (4)

ii. Projects/Initiatives

- 1. Funding
- 2. Ratification
- 3. Cheque Request
- iii. Events
- iv. Other

c. VP Bauman

- i. Meetings
 - 1. Exec
 - 2. Mayoral Debate Forum
 - 3. Student Cases (4)
 - 4. Exec/SM
 - 5. Many Fehr (OVPR)
 - 6. Student + Department Head
 - 7. Pre-Council
 - 8. Council Meeting
- ii. Projects/Initiatives
 - 1. Teaching Excellence Nominations Open

iii. Events

- 1. Mayoral Candidate Forum
- 2. Live Streamed Primere Debate
- iv. Other



d. VP Singh

- i. Meetings
 - 1. Exec Meeting
 - 2. Mayoral Debate Forum
 - 3. Exec/SM Meeting
 - 4. Pre-Council Meeting
 - 5. Students' Council
- ii. Projects/Initiatives
 - 1. Get Out To Vote
- iii. Events
 - 1. Mayoral Candidate Forum
 - 2. Provincial Elections Debate watch party
- iv. Other

5. New Business

- a. Bylaw Review
 - Meeting booked for Thursday.
 - ii. Potential changes:
 - 1. Add a Residence Committee.
 - 2. Fix the International Student Advisory Committee.
 - 3. Add an Awards Committee.

b. Committees

i. Send out doodle polls so that USC committees can start meeting.

c. Campus Groups Policy (Items for consideration)

- i. Grants
 - 1. (1.1, 1.4)
 - a. Current: "All USSU Ratified Campus Groups in good standing with no outstanding debts to the USSU are eligible to apply for funding. Suppose a funding request is submitted prior to the end of the Academic Year for an event to be held within the first twenty-one (21) days of the next Academic Year (May 1- May 21). In that case, Campus Groups are eligible to receive funding based on their previous year's ratification status.."

Proposed (a2): All USSU Ratified Campus Groups in good standing, with no outstanding debts to the USSU, are eligible to apply for funding.

 [1.4] To ensure a thorough review of your funding request and to address any potential concerns, it is highly recommended to submit your application



at least 21 days before your project or initiative, and absolutely no later than March 30th. This advance notice is crucial for the committee's evaluation process and helps avoid last-minute complications.

2. (8.1)

- a. Current: "The group agrees to submit all relevant receipts, invoices, and proof of payment in a timely manner. Failure to submit adequate documentation will result in forfeiture of funding."
- b. Proposed: The group agrees to submit all relevant receipts, invoices and proof of payment within 21 days after the project or initiative, and absolutely no later than April 30th. Failure to submit adequate documentation will result in forfeiture of funding.
- ii. Operations (below 1, 9.1), Add:
 - 1. **New Group:** a group that has not been ratified with the USSU in the past five years, and has a significantly different membership and mandate from other student groups ratified with the USSU.

d. Ratification

- i. Canadian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy Saskatoon Student Group (CIM SSC)
- ii. U of S Judging Team
- iii. U of S Range Team
- iv. U of S Beef Team

Motion to provisionally ratify Canadian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy Saskatoon Student Group (CIM SSC), U of S Judging Team, U of S Range Team, and U of S Beef Team for the 2024-2025 academic year.

EXECMOTION055	VP Ahiabu / VP Singh	Carried
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e. Funding

Motion to grant \$100 cash, \$30 XL credit, and \$100 Louis' credit of projects & initiatives funding to Usask en français for their games night.

EXECMOTION056	President Chavda / VP Bauman	Carried
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Motion to grant CommUniLink \$150 of projects & initiative funding for their Promotion for Research Night.

EXECMOTION057	President Chavda / VP Singh	Carried
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Motion to grant Inspired 2 Uplift \$100 cash and \$200 of new group projects & initiatives funding for Group Banner-welcome week tabling.

EXECMOTION058	VP Ahiabu / VP Bauman	Carried
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Motion to grant Indian Students' Association \$500 of EDI-international funding for their Jashn-e-Diwali Social.

EXECMOTION059	VP Bauman / VP Ahiabu	Carried	
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Motion to grant USASK Hip Hop \$500 cash, \$250 XL credit, and \$250 Louis' credit of projects & initiatives funding for their Hip Hop Vibe & Workshop.

EXECMOTION060	VP Ahiabu / VP Singh	Carried
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Motion to grant Neuroscience Students' Society \$100 cash and \$30 XL credit of projects and initiatives funding for their research night.

EXECMOTION061 VP Singh / VP Ahiabu Carried	
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Motion to reject Islamic Relief USask's request for \$200 of EDI-international funding for their Charity Week Gol Goppe Competition.

EXECMOTION062	VP Ahiabu / President Chavda	Carried
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Motion to grant FABS Club \$195 cash and \$300 XL funding of projects & initiatives funding for their pumpkin carving event.

EXECMOTION063	VP Bauman / VP Singh	Carried
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Motion to grant Islamic Relief USask \$150 of projects & initiatives funding Charity Week Fifa Night.

EXECMOTION064	VP Ahiabu / VP Bauman	Carried
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Motion to grant Islamic Relief USask \$150 of EDI-gender funding for their Charity Week Sticker and Charm Bracelet Night.

EXECMOTION065	VP Bauman / President Chavda	Carried
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Motion to grant Islamic Relief USask \$150 of EDI-gender funding for their Charity Week Tote Bag Paint Night.

EXECMOTION066	VP Bauman / VP Singh	Carried
EXECMOTION066	VP Bauman / VP Singh	Carried

Motion to grant Arts and Science Students' Union \$300 of XL credit for a retractable banner.

EXECMOTION067	VP Ahiabu / President Chavda	Carried
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Motion to grant U of S Ukrainian Students' Association \$500 of EDI-international funding for their University of Saskatchewan Ukrainian Students' Association 95th Anniversary event.

EXECMOTION068	VP Singh / VP Bauman	Carried
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Motion to grant U of S Ukrainian Students' Association \$500 of projects & initiatives funding for their University of Saskatchewan Ukrainian Students' Association 95th Anniversary event.

EXECMOTION069	VP Ahiabu / VP Bauman	Carried
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Motion to grant USASK Hip Hop \$200 of projects & initiatives (new group) funding for start up printing credit.

EXECMOTION070	President Chavda / VP Bauman	Carried
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6. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 11:26 AM.